

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 280 without my signature.

While I support the attainment of literacy in foreign languages, I am concerned that this bill could create a precedent for providing special recognition for one specific subject area. Students taking four years of math or science, for example, would not receive special recognition, therefore creating a bias of value toward foreign language above other core curricula areas. Students should be encouraged to strive for, and value high achievement in all of their academic pursuits.

For this and other reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger